

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 CPR-01

/060 W

----- 108573

R 301330Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4782

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET V-E DAY CELEBRATIONS

REF STATE 69945

SOVIET EMBASSY HERE HAS LAID ON TWO SOCIAL EVENTS TO CELEBRATE V-E DAY. FIRST, HELD APRIL 28, WAS SMALL RECEPTION AND MOVIE ONLY FOR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER THREE OF WARTIME "BIG FOUR". IT WAS ATTENDED BY DIPLOMATIC STAFF OF FRENCH AND AMERICAN EMBASSIES AND BY HONORARY BRITISH CONSUL (BELGIAN CITIZEN). SECOND CEREMONY IS TO BE GENERAL RECEPTION ON MAY 9 FOR BURUNDI ESTABLISHMENT AND FOREIGNERS. FRG EMBASSY HERE SAYS THAT BONN HAS ORDERED IT NOT RPT NOT TO ATTEND AFFAIR, FOR WHICH INVITATIONS REFER TO "CRUSHING OF HITLERITE FASCISM".

AMBASSADOR POZHIDAEV STARTED PROCEEDINGS APRIL 28 WITH SHORT STATEMENT IN WHICH HE STRESSED GREAT IMPORTANCE OF "CRUSHING OF HITLERITE FASCISM" FOR HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN BODIES POLITIC AND ECONOMIC, INCLUDING GERMAN. HE SAID HUGE SOVIET LOSSES IN WAR MADE MOSCOW FOREVER DETERMINED TO AVOID FUTURE WAR, AND THIS DETERMINED PRESENT SOVIET PURSUIT

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OF DETENTE AND EUROPEAN SECURITY AGREEMENT. THERE WAS NO

DIRECT OR INDIRECT REFERENCE TO FRG OR CURRENT GERMAN SITUATION.

REMARKS WERE FOLLOWED BY SHOW FEATURING 30 MINUTE FILM ON WORK AND HEROISM OF SQUADRON OF FRENCH AIR FORCE PILOTS WHO SERVED ON SOVIET FRONT THROUGHOUT WAR, AND WHO FURNISH LOGICAL OBJECT LESSON FOR COMMON SENSE OF CLOSE FRANCO-SOVIET COLLABORATION. EVENING CLOSED WITH HOUR AND HALF OF TEDIOUS EXCERPTS FROM REGULAR SOVIET "COMMERCIAL" MOVIE (APPARENTLY PRODUCED ABOUT 1971), WHICH DEPICTED WAR-RELATED EVENTS OF 1943 (INCLUDING FAIRLY NEUTRAL PORTRAYAL OF STALIN APPROVING WAR STRATEGY AND ATTENDING TEHRAN CONFERENCE WITH WELL-IMITATED ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL). ALL SOVIET PERSONNEL WERE EXTREMELY CORDIAL THROUGHOUT PROCEEDINGS.

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